

Message Text

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51 50

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11

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R 091020Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4145

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (EO AND TAGS INFORMATION ADDED)

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP

SUBJ: NEW DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENTS

1. SIX AMBASSADORIAL APPOINTMENTS, MADE BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE OF AUGUST 26 (JUST BEFORE AHIDJO'S DEPARTURE ON BRIEF NIGERIAN VISIT AND EUROPEAN VACATION), WERE ANNOUNCED BY CAMEROONIAN MEDIA SEPTEMBER 4. ONLY PATTERN DISCERNIBLE SEEMS ONE OF MUSICAL-CHAIRS, WITH HALF NOMINEES REPLACING OTHERS ON THE LIST. TWO OF GROUP WELL KNOWN TO AMERICAN DIPLOMACY THROUGH CONTACTS THIS EMBASSY AND DUTY TOURS IN U.S. WOULD APPEAR BIG WINNERS, LAND-ING FIRST AMBASSADORIAL ASSIGNMENTS.

A. SUAVE, FRANCOPHILE HENRI DJENGUE NDOUMBE GOES ON FROM ONE YEAR AS MINISTER-COUNSELLOR IN WASHINGTON TO BECOME AMBAS-SADOR TO BONN.

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B. DJENGUE REPLACES JEAN-CLAUDE NGOH, REPUTEDLY ONE OF HIGHEST

QUALITY GURC FOREIGN SERVANTS, WHO IN TURN TAKES OVER EMBASSY
IN NEXT-DOOR BANGUI.

C. NAMED NEW AMBASSADOR TO LONDON IS YOUTHFUL MICHEL EPANGIE
KOSS, WHO ENTERS AMBASSADORIAL RANKS WITH ECLAT, SEEMINGLY NOT
HAVING SUFFERED FROM PAST YEAR IN HIBERNATION. THOUGH NOMIN-
ALLY FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
SINCE DJENGUE REPLACED HIM IN WASHINGTON, HE HAS BEEN ON LEAVE
(REGULAR AND SICK) ALMOST CONTINUALLY SINCE HIS RETURN.

D. EPANGUE KOSS TAKES OVER FROM ANGLOPHONE JACOB ACHIDI KISOB,
MEMBER WEST CAMEROONIAN FAMILY PROMINENT FOR PUBLIC SERVICE,
WHO MOVES TO MONROVIA.

E. THE MAN KISOB REPLACES, MARTIN EPIE, ANOTHER WEST CAMEROONIAN
OF MARK, IS A 7-YEAR VETERAN IN LIBERIA WHO PREVIOUSLY WAS
AMBASSADOR TO LONDON. EPIE NOW BECOMES AMBASSADOR TO OTTAWA.

F. FINALLY, PRESENT AMBASSADOR TO MALABO IBRAHIM MBOMBO NJOYA
IS TO TAKE OVER CAMEROON'S EMBASSY IN CAIRO. NJOYA IS SON OF
POWERFUL TRADITIONAL RULER SULTAN OF FOUMBAN, AND HAD GOOD
REPUTATION IN MALABO POST.

2. COMMENT: THE FOREGOING NEW APPOINTMENTS APPEAR CONTAIN NO
BIG SURPRISES AND PROBABLY HAVE NO GREAT SIGNIFICANCE BEYOND
PERIODIC PROMOTION AND ROTATION COMPETENT FOREIGN SERVANTS.
ANNOUNCEMENT INEVITABLY INSPIRES SPECULATION IN LOCAL OFFICIAL
MILIEUX THAT MORE NEW FOREIGN MINISTRY NOMINATIONS HAVE BEEN
MADE WHICH REMAIN TO BE DISCLOSED. SUCH CHANGES CUSTOMARILY
SURFACE HERE ABOUT THIS TIME OF YEAR, BUT NONE HAD BEEN AN-
NOUNCED BEFORE THESE FEW AT TOP-LEVEL. THEY MAY WELL BE TIP
OF PROVERBIAL ICEBERG, WITH MORE SHIFTS IN LOWER DIPLOMATIC
REACHES YET TO BE REVEALED IN DAYS AHEAD.
FRIEDMAN

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